GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3638
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2015
Fire Safety in Schools
Paswan Shri Chirag

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has made any survey to ascertain the availability of appropriate apparatus for fire safety in the Government and private schools of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to ensure the fire safety in the schools?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c): The State Governments and affiliating boards for schools have the responsibility to ensure that schools provide a safe and child friendly environment. This Ministry had written on 27th July, 2004 to all States and Union Territories (UTs) directing that school buildings should be free from inflammable and toxic materials and there should be provision for adequate emergency exits and adequate supply of water and sand for fire fighting purposes. Further, this Ministry's guidelines issued on 9th October, 2014 state that school buildings should be resistant to earthquakes, fire and safe from floods and other calamities. The guidelines on Food Safety and Hygiene for School Level Kitchen under the Mid Day Meal scheme stress on the safety aspects of procurement, storage and preparation of food items.

This Ministry also called upon all States and UTs to observe 16th July, every year, as "School Health and Safety Day" and to organise safety drills and various other activities on that day to inculcate appropriate health and safety culture among teachers and students.

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